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LETTER DATED 5 JUNE 1995 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I wish to clarify once again the real facts of and our positions on the issues of the "United Nations Command", the Korean armistice system and the remains of the United States soldiers in response to the 1994 report on the activities of the "United Nations Command" that was circulated a few weeks ago as a document of the Security Council (S/1995/378).

As everyone knows, the "United Nations Command" is a brainchild of the United States of America which arbitrarily usurped the name of the United Nations in order to cover its real colour of aggression after provoking the Korean war in 1950 and still remains a camouflage today serving the military and strategic purpose of the United States.

As for the illegal resolution of the United Nations Security Council of 7 July 1950 (resolution 84 (1950)), which is claimed to be the legal foundation of the "United Nations Command", it did not decide to organize the "United Nations forces" but recommended that the armed forces and other assistance provided by United Nations Member nations should be used by the United States-led combined forces command.

The "United Nations Command" is in reality the product of the United States that emerged as a result of the arbitrary attachment of the name of the United Nations to the armed forces of the satellite nations under the command of the United States.

It was long ago that all countries except the United States withdrew their forces from the "United Nations Command", and today there are absolutely no other foreign troops dispatched to the "United Nations Command".

The "United Nations Command" is a bogus organization created by the United States and serves the unjust strategic aim of the United States to isolate and stifle the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and control the Asia and Pacific region regardless of the United Nations mission for peace.



Hence, General Assembly resolution 3390 B (XXX) calling for the dissolution of the "United Nations Command" and the replacement of the Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement was adopted at the thirtieth session of the General Assembly in 1975.

In fact, the Korean Armistice Agreement concluded on 27 July 1953 was a tentative measure pending a future peace agreement after the suspension of the military actions between the two belligerent parties.

The United States should take an urgent step to dismantle the "United Nations Command" as was stipulated by the resolution adopted at the thirtieth session of the General Assembly.

As for the Korean armistice system, it has been completely paralysed as a result of the systematic acts of the United States to destroy the Korean Armistice Agreement and armistice machinery.

The United States side forced the inspection teams of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission, which had been formed according to paragraphs 40 and 43 of article II of the Armistice Agreement, to withdraw from its side's area in June 1956 and then unilaterally abrogated subparagraphs 13 c and 13 d of the Armistice Agreement on stopping the introduction of reinforcing military personnel and combat materials into Korea, the main duty of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission, in June 1957.

As a result, paragraphs 41 and 42 of the Armistice Agreement, defining it as the mission of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission to supervise and investigate the introduction of reinforcing military personnel and combat materials, lost their legal effect.

Since then the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission has existed only in name.

Worse still, the United States side paralysed even the function of the Military Armistice Commission, the main truce supervisory machinery, by unilaterally appointing a "general" of the South Korean army, with neither the qualification nor legal ground, as its senior member of the Military Armistice Commission on 25 March 1991.

Given the grave situation threatening peace on the Korean peninsula and non-existence of the appropriate mechanism to provide a check thereto, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea initiated a proposal to the United States for holding negotiations to replace the useless and obsolete armistice system with a new durable peace mechanism, and took further practical measures to recall all the members of the Korean People's Army side from the Military Armistice Commission and establish the Panmunjom Mission of the Korean People's Army as a new negotiating institution to deal with the United States Army side.

These measures were indeed innovative and well-intentioned ones to make a breakthrough for the new security mechanism guaranteeing the peace on the Korean peninsula and also peace-loving ones, reflecting the internationally recognized

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practice through which several countries had abrogated belligerent relations and proclaimed peaceful relations after World War II.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States, a signatory to the Armistice Agreement and virtual operational controller of the army in south Korea, are the parties directly responsible for the establishment of the peace mechanism on the Korean peninsula.

As for the remains of the United States soldiers, we had long ago exhumed and returned the remains of the United States army on several occasions out of the humanitarian principles.

We returned 145 additional sets of the United States army remains in 5 repatriations even after the conclusion of the agreement on remains-related matters on 24 August 1993.

Though we have repatriated 194 remains of the United States army remains as humanitarian gestures, the United States is intentionally not implementing the relevant provisions of the agreement, politically abusing the remains issue.

According to the agreement on remains-related matters, our side, under article 2, is to search for and exhume the remains of the United States soldiers buried north of the military demarcation line and repatriate those remains to the United States side, and the United States side, under article 3, is to render necessary support to aid the Korean People's Army's search, exhumation and repatriation efforts.

However, the United States side, after the conclusion of the agreement at its will, today now withdrew its commitment to support for our exhumation efforts, asking for the suspension of an unilateral exhumation and demanding a joint exhumation quite contrary to the relevant provisions of the agreement.

The current difficulty is therefore attributable to the political misuse of the remains matter and the deliberate non-compliance with the agreement by the United States side.

I would be grateful if you could kindly arrange to have my letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) PAK Gil Yon
Permanent Representative
